

WEDNESDAY

January 7, 1998

Award-winning
independent newspaper
The Oakland Sail, Inc.

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POST INFORMATION

Volume 23 - Issue 14 - 10 pages
5,000 campus circulation
Copies free of charge
Rochester, MI 48309

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WEEKLY CAMPUS NEWSPAPER

Diversity fluctuating on campus

By SANDY LEUNG
Special Writer

"I think OU is a multi-cultural school, and you can easily notice that when you walk past the OC during lunch hours."

Sara Orsi
Elementary Education Junior

Minority student enrollment at OU shows inconsistency and seems to be on a roller coaster ride.

OU records from the Office of Institutional Research indicate an unstable decline in minority enrollment.

Percentages of minority students in enrollment overall from 1992 to 1997 are: 10.4 percent, 10.6 percent, 9.0 percent, 9.4 percent, 9.2 percent and 9.3 percent.

Although the margins are very small between two consecutive years, there is a total 1.1 per-

cent decrease from 1992 to 1997.

The data is also divided into the specific minority groups, which are: the American Indian/Alaskan Native, Hispanic, Asian/Pacific Islander, and African American.

The 1997 enrollment totals for each group are as follows: American Indians/Alaskan Natives with 66, Hispanics with 181, Asians/Pacific Islanders with 316, and African Americans with 779 enrolled.

The data does not distinguish between full-time and part-time students.

According to an advertising brochure, OU is an advocate of

diversity and offers many multi-cultural programs and organizations in which students can assist and participate.

Some are: the Association of Black Students, the Indian Association, and Project Upward Bound.

These programs are developed in order to attract students from all different backgrounds to OU, as stated in the university brochure.

Despite the statistics, some students still consider OU a fairly diverse school.

Sarah Orsi, elementary education junior, said, "I think OU is a multi-cultural school, and you

can easily notice that when you walk past the OC during lunch hours."

Some students compared OU to other universities in Michigan and felt OU has the potential to be more diverse.

Michelle Raeb, a transfer student from Western Michigan University, said, "OU is a culturally diverse school but when compared to Western, OU is behind."

Bryan Barnett, Congress president, said, "Everyone has so much to offer regardless of race or gender. It's important to get

See DIVERSITY page 5

Lines, lines and more lines



Although classes were not held Monday, many students could be found lingering around campus—in lines, that is. The bookstore (left) had lines wrapped around garment racks. The line to register (bottom right) was backed up to the Fireside Lounge. And the line outside the Cashiers Office (bottom left) was down the hall almost to South Foundation Hall.



Photos by Lisa Belanger



Drunken driving pre-trial to begin

By JEANNIE KIRKALDY
News Editor

In efforts to help the defense of Christopher Knoche, a motion was filed by his attorney to dismiss the Breathalyzer test evidence against him.

However, the prosecutor says drinking and driving still appears to be the cause of the fatal car crash for which Knoche was charged.

The crash occurred on Oct. 19, 1997, and killed OU sophomore Jonathon Thomas, 19.

OU alumnus Knoche, 23, allegedly caused the automobile accident while driving under the influence of alcohol.

Knoche was charged with operating under the influence causing death and manslaughter.

Knoche's pre-trial is set to begin Thursday at the Oakland County Circuit Courthouse in Pontiac at 8:30 a.m. before Judge David Breck.

Lisa Madzia, appointed assistant prosecutor, said a motion has been filed on Knoche's behalf to suppress the breath (the Breathalyzer Test), questioning the validity of the test.

At Knoche's preliminary hearing, Craig Mendon, Auburn Hills police officer, testified that Knoche's blood alcohol level was .18, nearly 1 and 1/2 hours after the accident.

David Binkley, Knoche's attorney, said rules were violated when administering the Breathalyzer.

"A 15-minute observation period of the defendant prior to taking the Breathalyzer test was violated," Binkley said.

Since Mendon has given two contradicting stories regarding the way the Breathalyzer was administered, Binkley said an additional hearing is needed in order to determine which of Mendon's stories is true.

At the preliminary hearing, Mendon stated that during the observation period he may have left the room.

However, in a sworn affidavit filed Dec. 17, he stated he did not leave the room during the 15-minute time frame.

See TRIAL page 5

Collision research to be honored

By LIDIJA MILIC
Assistant News Editor

It's official: the world is getting closer to inventing a car that can run all by itself.

The recent contribution to the "intelligent vehicle" of the future is an invention of an OU engineering team, which developed a Collision Warning and Avoidance System.

The team, led by Professor of Engineering Ka C. Cheok, will get an award from the International Symposium on Automotive Technology and Automation (ISATA) for the invention of collision-preventing system.

The research for this project was conducted for a Hummer off-road military vehicle.

The radar-based system monitors obstacles in a vehicle's way, Cheok said, and projects them on the heads-up display on the windshield.

The device is called heads-up display because the driver does not need to look away from the road to see the warning signal.

The system also makes the vehicle automatically slow down

if it is approaching an obstacle too fast.

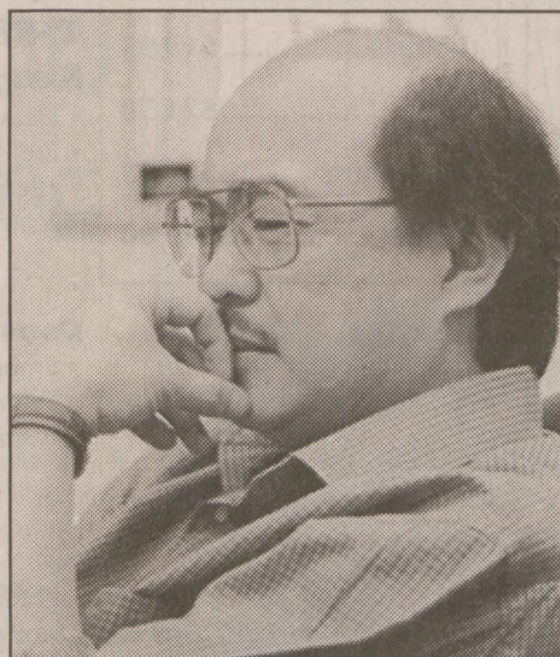
This is an "active safety" feature, since it literally prevents accidents, Cheok said.

The monitoring system consists of a laser radar and 16 ultrasonic sensors around the vehicle, as well as the computer which tracks obstacles up to 100 meters ahead, Cheok said.

"The testing was fun," Cheok said.

He and his team members went driving in the system-equipped car, and would terrify other drivers on the road by approaching them very quickly, just to have the car slow itself down before it hit them.

The funding for the project came from the U.S. Army Tank automotive and Armaments Command (TACOM), located in Warren, Mich.



Post Photo/Lisa Belanger

TEAM LEADER: Ka C. Cheok

As stated in a research paper prepared by the team, the system is to help prevent military traffic accidents which occur in peace-time.

According to the research paper, the U.S. Army fleet suffers \$25 million loss in damages and medical costs from traffic accidents, 40 percent of which are rear end collisions.

The statistics show that Collision Warning and Avoidance System can prevent 23 to 31 percent of this type of crashes.

The research began in June 1996, Cheok said.

One year and \$150,000 later, the paper was presented at the ISATA in Florence, Italy, where it received the Nissan Award as the paper with the most innovative research subject among the 650 papers presented.

The ISATA will honor the OU research team at a ceremony to be held in June in Dusseldorf, Germany.

Cheok said the team members were chosen on the basis of their systems engineering background.

They included: research associate Shinichi Nishizawa, graduate students Ger Edzko Smid and Lukas ten Berge, and Paul Lescoe, the chief of robotics group from TACOM.

The team is currently negotiating with companies interested in manufacturing the system for the U.S. Army.

"We're talking to automotive

See AUTO page 5

Oakland University Student Congress

OUSC Book Swap
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Thursday 9:00- 5:00
Friday 9:00- 5:00

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Good Luck this
semester



The Center for Student Activities and Leadership Development

The Center for Student Activities and Leadership Development is an important component of the Oakland Center and is in the process of becoming a dynamic resource for Oakland University. The Center is dedicated to bringing the best in student activities and helping Oakland University students reach their leadership potential.

Want to Travel?

The Center for Student Activities, in conjunction with The Department of Modern Languages, The Center for International Studies, The Honors College and The Department of Alumni Relations is pleased to announce two great international travel opportunities:

Trip to Ghana, Africa

February 19-25, 1998

\$1,850 per person

Sign up deadline is January 17.

Highlights: Tour of Accra, Aburi and the Central Region

Trip to Spain

May 5-16, 1998

\$1,975 per person

Highlights: Tours of Barcelona, Madrid, Toledo, Seville, Cordova, & Granada

If interested Contact Gina Onyx at DeWald Travel at (800) 228-0707 for trip information and reservations. Trip brochures are available in the Center for Student Activities.

College Bowl Returns

College Bowl is coming to Oakland University. Oakland University will hold its campus tournament on Saturday, January 24, 1998.

College Bowl is a game of academic knowledge and quick recall. Now in its 21st year, the game features two teams of four players each competing to score points to toss up and bonus questions. The questions cover every conceivable topic from literature, science, history, geography, religion, social sciences, multicultural topics and the arts to popular culture, sports and current events.

Oakland University's Campus Tournament is being supported by EDS. The first place team will share a \$1000 prize while the second place team will share a \$400 prize. Interested Oakland University students can register as a team or as an individual. Entry Forms are available in the Center for Student Activities, located at 49 Oakland Center, in the lower level. The entry fee is \$20.00 per team. The competition is open to all spectators.

The winner of the Oakland University Campus Tournament will represent the University at the Regional Championships.

Winter Blood Drive

The Winter Blood Drive will be held Monday, January 12 and Tuesday, January 13 from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. in the Oakland Center Heritage Room. Call 370-2020 for an appointment.

Student Organization Leaders

Attention all student organizations and student leaders!! Opportunity is "knocking" on your door. If you are a new officers for this semester, please don't forget to sign up to attend an Officer Training/Workshop.

The Winter Semester Student Organization Day will be held on Wednesday, January 28th from 10-3:00 p.m. The Winter Semester Leadership @3 Leadership Series will take place on third Wednesday of each month. Stop by the Center for more information.

The Center's Service Window

The Center's Service Window is there to provide convenience to Oakland University Students. At the service window we have:

- Film Processing
- Kodak film at low prices!
- single envelopes
- sign up for College Bowl Tournament

Sign up and get tickets for the following SPB events:

- January 30 WhirlyBall
- February 7 Winter Olympics

Center Services

The Center offers a range of services designed to be helpful and useful to Oakland University Students. Two Copy Machines (\$10 a copy) Jumper Cables Licensed Child Care Lists Locker Rental Rochester Area Maps

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CAMPUS NEWS

OU welcomes 1998 Positive resolutions



David Herman
Dean of Students

"I hope that the rec center meets everyone's expectations and that the grand opening Sept. 8 is a memorable event."



Maura Selahowski
Campus Recreation Director

"To find ways for students to participate and interact more in university sponsored events and organizations."



Eleanor Reynolds
Director of Residence Halls

"To continue to provide quality service to our residents, and have some fun."

"To get more of students involved in campus activities."



Raymond Landsberg
SPB Chair

"To continue to redesign the OC's physical environment promoting student learning and new services for students."

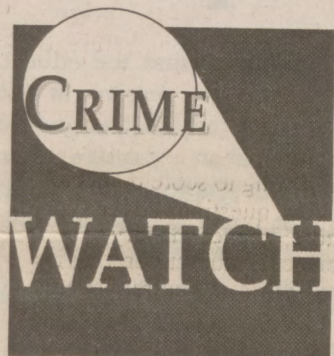


Richard Fekel
OC Director

"That the library will have an important role in ensuring OU students become life long learners."



Suzanne Frankie
Kresge Dean



Student Arrested for Possession

A Hill House resident was charged with one count of possession with the intent to deliver marijuana and one count of possession of a controlled substance under 25 grams.

Dan Sutor, director of Hill House, notified OU Police on Dec. 14, 1997, he suspected one of the residents was going to use illegal substances.

Sutor told police he overheard resident Wade Egdish talking about opium while in his room.

Sutor and an OUPD officer went to Egdish's door. The police report stated that they smelled an odor of burning marijuana and heard sounds similar to inhaling and coughing were coming from the room.

After Sutor and the police officer were let into Egdish's room, he admitted he was smoking marijuana.

According to the report, two bags of suspected marijuana, one bag of suspected opium, one marijuana pipe suspected of containing marijuana, six additional marijuana pipes, three packs of rolling papers and one set of hemostats were confiscated.

The police report stated that Egdish said his younger guests, none of whom are OU students, called him asking to purchase a bag of marijuana.

Egdish said he does not normally sell marijuana, but said he accepted full responsibility for the activities that took place in the room.

The suspected marijuana and opium were subsequently tested and found to be positive.

Egdish was placed under arrest for the delivery of controlled substances.

An arraignment is scheduled for 1:30 p.m. Thursday at the Oakland County Circuit Courthouse.

Dean Polis elected to engineering board

By REBECCA DEVANTIER
Staff Writer

Dean of Engineering, Michael Polis, was elected one of six members to serve a three year term on the Board of Governors of Institute of Electrical Engineering Control Systems Society (IEEE).

The society is responsible for new developments in automated control, Polis said. "It's basically a professional society," he said.

The society publishes two newsletters, "Transactions on Automated Control," and "Transactions on Control Systems Technology."

In addition, the society publishes a magazine called "Control Systems Magazine."

"(The magazine) is purchased by most university libraries, the people in the society and the people who are interested in that sort of thing," Polis said.

Polis entered the election as a petitioned candidate.

"I want to be involved in making policy for the society," he said.

Polis petitioned the 25 signatures needed to run and he was elected by the 11,000-member society.

The board is one of the governing bodies of the institute.

As a member of the board, Polis will set policy, help make planning decisions, set budgets, and determine where the conferences will be held.

The board meets twice a year, with national conferences usually held in June and December.

Last December, conference was held in California, and the June conference might be held in



Post Photo/Lisa Belanger

MICHAEL POLIS: Dean of Engineering is one of the six elected members of the IEEE Board of Governors.

Philadelphia, Polis said.

Conferences are also held worldwide. Past conferences were held in Japan and England. The conference in the year 2000 is scheduled for Australia.

Polis got his Ph. D. from Perdue University. After leaving Perdue, he

took a position as a professor of electrical engineering at Ecole Polytechnique in Montreal.

Since then, he taught at the National Science Foundation in Washington, D.C. and served as chair of the electrical and computer engineering department at Wayne State University.

Polis has been at OU for five years. As the Dean of Science and Engineering, his duties include heading academic administration in the school, giving encouragement to faculty, and seeing to it that the curriculums are updated, he said.

The part of his job he likes best is "seeing the faculty being successful and being able to help with that," he said.

Polis' favorite hobby is "reading almost anything, whether it's fiction or something technical," he said.

Though the board position may take up some of his time, Polis has no intention of leaving OU. "I have no plans on moving," he said.

Parking at OU more blessing than curse

By ERIKA MILLER
Staff Writer

Are you howling with road rage over OU's inconvenient parking spots and the kick of costly tickets? Is the horde of cars and trucks on campus hornning in on your peace of mind?

Before you take out your frustration on a fellow student who's just edged you out of a close-in spot, or the campus police who left a \$20 ticket on your illegally parked car, first switch gears.

Then quietly consider the humble parking place in the distance. It's legal, and it's free.

It's free for now, that is. According to parking professionals, if people complain too loudly about having to walk, they may end up paying to park, or losing their driving privilege altogether.

On the national front, the U.S. Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt recently announced a "transportation blueprint for the 21st century," which excludes cars.

In his plan, only bikes, buses, and light rail system will be used to supplement some serious hiking by foot.

By 2001, he plans to take the carless system inside three major national parks. The concept is expected to spread nationwide.

Dennis Hansen, of MSU's park and planning division, was surprised to learn OU has any complaints about free parking.

"I think (OU) students live in a dream world," Hansen said, laughing.

"Everyone at MSU pays dearly. The god-given right to have a parking space isn't realistic, especially if it's free," he said.

He said it is not uncommon for dot-



Post Photo/Lisa Belanger

ROAD RALLY: Parking on campus can be frustrating especially during the first week of each semester. However, OU students are lucky to have free parking.

ing MSU parents to add up to \$3,000 a term to their student's account to cover the cost of parking tickets.

"At MSU back in the '60s, you couldn't even have a car on campus unless you were a junior or a senior," Hansen said.

Some members of the OU community also shake their heads at complaints.

Susan Gerrits, general counsel and secretary to the Board of Trustees, agrees with Hansen.

"People here don't know how good they have it," she said.

Greg Kampe, OU Men's Basketball head coach and member of the parking commission, said, "We don't have a parking problem on this campus. We have a 'convenient' parking problem. You can walk anywhere in a 15 to 20 minute period."

Kampe also said there are many complaints about the number of parking spaces taken up by the handicapped,

See PARKING page 5

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EDITOR'S VIEW

Campus resolutions to include responsibility

As last year came to a close, many were thinking how many more problems could arise before OU hit an all-time low.

Criminal sexual conduct reports sky-rocketed on campus, reaching the highest number ever in one year.

In September, faculty and administrators hammered out a mediocre union settlement at the last minute, leaving students unsure about their class schedules.

The settlement was later passed by a narrow margin, demonstrating faculty's outrage towards some top officials.

As the holiday season neared, news of drunken driving and illegal activities at campus parties flooded local newspapers. This not only caused the university embarrassment, but Oakland County prosecutors are claiming the irresponsible driving also led to the death of an OU sophomore.

To crack down and in attempt to cover up its lackadaisical enforcement of rules, the administration suspended the entire swimming and diving teams and required all athletes to attend alcohol awareness classes.

But now it's the start of a new semester, a new year, and, for some, a beginning at OU.

Though personal New Year's resolutions tend to be broken before the end of the first week, the university community needs to take special precautions to make sure one is kept for years to come -- responsibility.

Not only responsibility for individual's actions, but for those of the entire campus community.

OU is striving for positive name recognition, but the unfortunate circumstances of last year only bring us embarrassment and negative publicity.

We must start delivering what we promise.

We cannot rely on outward perceptions alone. New buildings and campus renovations will only get us so far.

Instead, it is time to focus attention inward, as well as outward. We cannot become a better institution overall if campus divisions are using each other as scapegoats.

Nor can we sit back and hope others will do our jobs for us.

Every one on campus has a stake in the university. And every one has an obligation to make it the best it can be.

Unless we acknowledge and start taking responsibility for our actions, OU will never have a good name. Now seems like the best time for change.

OPINION



GUEST VIEW

More should consider in-state universities as affordable option

College Press Service
By WILLIAM KOVACS
Providence Journal-Bulletin

As a father with a bunch of kids, I had to face the problem of providing for their college education. The options are: an Ivy League type of school, private and very expensive; a state university; or a community college.

A family could face a yearly bill for tuition, fees, room, board, books and spending money easily \$25,000 to \$30,000 a year at one of the "good schools." Or one could get by with less than half that.

Just what are some of the benefits of going to a big-name, private university? What is in a name? A reputation? How does a school or university get that reputation?

The quality of a university is largely based on the reputation of the faculty and the quality of their papers and articles, as published in archival journals, and books and poems, etc., for the world to read. Their published output is largely funded by research contracts/grants from various federal, state and private funding sources. All universities try to attract the best faculty to enhance the reputation of themselves as well as the institution they belong to.

Each school's reputation is like a very heavy, slow-moving ship. Once it gets going,

it keeps going -- even if the engine gets turned off. A reputation is hard to improve and just as hard to decrease with time.

It should be pointed out that there exist some very famous public universities that have a reputation just as good as those of some of the Ivy League schools.

Attending an expensive school is primarily the large cost that may put a family in an undesirable financial position, especially if there are other kids waiting to attend college. Large loans may also be present after graduation that need to be paid off, eventually.

In addition, classes are often taught by Ph.D. students (many of whom are foreign-born and have difficulty with the English language), freeing the faculty to do research that will lead to publications and an enhanced reputation.

Attending a less costly state university has the benefit of not leaving a large loan to pay off. It doesn't have the big impact on family finances that an expensive school has. But here is where the main argument is to be made: in the actual education of your child.

If you look carefully at the credentials of the faculty at many state-supported schools, you will find that many of the faculty have gone to those big name universities themselves, and now they use the same textbooks that are used at the big schools.

Classes are taught primarily by faculty.

What I am implying is that the education that your son or daughter receives at a state university is academically just as good and perhaps better than at an expensive schools!

A third alternative is to go the cheapest route -- living at home and commuting to the community college for two years. Then transfer to a larger school and live on campus, part of the overall experience.

If your son or daughter is that good, academically, he or she will flourish at the state-supported university just as well. If a big name school is that important, then go there for that graduate degree after one has received good grades and a bachelor's degree at a smaller school. But don't forget, students themselves have to work to get those good grades.

If you want to pay double or triple the overall cost to send your child to college, send them to a big name school. If you want to have your offspring receive a good solid education for a reasonable cost, then a state university will do a great job.

William P. Kovacs is a professor of civil engineering at University of Rhode Island. He graduated from Cornell University (G.I. Bill) and the University of California at Berkeley. Three of his seven children have graduated from URI; the youngest is now a sophomore there.

Letters to the Editor

University actions are too little, too late

Dear Editor,

I am writing this letter on behalf of Jonnathan Thomas' family. We as a family have been torn apart by his loss. We have had much support from his friends he had at OU and the ones who were not students.

But the question on everyone's mind is how could his have been prevented?

Many parties have been going on for many years on and off college campuses.

Some of the major colleges have had very strict rules in force for a number of years, but we feel the things that are now happening as far as rules and what is being done to enforce those rules is a little late for us.

We are very tired of reading in the papers the accomplishments of the athletes and what they have been taught in the last few weeks.

No amount of classroom hours for anyone is going to bring Jon back to us. And it will not stop people from drinking and driving because it continues every day. So many more lives will be lost, and many more hearts will be broken.

We feel that this traditional Golden Sushi party, as it was called, has been allowed for a number of years and would have gone on just fine, except for the fact that someone was unlucky that night.

Now, as the unlucky one's family, we are faced with a life without him. There are no words to tell you of our pain.

It is very difficult to read of what the team has to look forward to: there are meets and competitions, etc.

But we have nothing to look forward to. We have his empty Christmas stocking, and we have a nice grave site to go to. We

have the memory of a beautiful boy who we had to look at in a casket, but could not touch him because of all the heavy makeup that was used. We also have the memory of the repairs that had to be made on him because of the accident.

We have to hear over and over the circumstances of this accident and what happened to him in his last few moments of his life.

I do not think anyone of the people involved knows how that feels.

We do not have anything to look forward to now -- just memories.

I think something more needs to be done to prevent these tragedies, and unless these rules are enforced and stuck to for everyone, then this kind of thing will be repeated and repeated. And someone else's family will have to spend Christmas with-

out their loved one.

The students punished for breaking the rules may have something on their records, but they still have a life to live and obviously are getting on with it.

We find it hard to just get out of bed in the morning. Jon's roadside memorial has been taken down by someone, but that does not mean that his friends and family will forget this tragedy.

We will continue to support each other as long as it takes. There are many of Jon's friends who have been greatly affected by his death. But how much more will it take to enforce the rules?

Another loss of life? Another family devastated?

Sincerely,

Jonnathan Thomas' family

Parking

Continued from page 3

suggesting that students and staff resent the disabled who get to park in all the front rows.

However, many students continue to park illegally and receive tickets.

"The first two weeks of school are excessive because everyone attends," said OU Police Lt. Mel Gilroy.

"We normally write 4,000 to 4,500 tickets a year," he said.

In ticket numbers, Gilroy said, the lot that parallels the road from South Foundation Hall to Meadow Brook Theatre is the most ticketed parking lot.

However, in terms of the percentages of tickets to spaces, the O'Dowd lot tops the list of transgressors.

In addition, Gilroy said the chances are minimal that someone will park illegally in the Varner lot.

Varner is called "the smart lot," Gilroy said, because its newest design incorporates "green islands" with light poles that discourage illegal parking at the end rows, regulating the flow of traffic.

"Row-end violators restrict space and the ability to access fire trucks," Gilroy said. "We write tickets early for them before the rows fill up and close off (access)."

Susan Aldrich, facility planner in Wilson Hall, makes decisions regarding parking on campus.

Aldrich scoffs at anyone's aversion to taking a hike, even in inclement weather.

"We have to get out of that mindset," she said. "The more

inconvenient it becomes, the more people get out of habit."

Aldrich encourages everyone to walk on campus, especially those who live here.

"We would hope those (students) wouldn't drive," she said. "This is a commuter campus."

At a cost of about \$1,000 per paved spot (and \$10,000 if in a multi-level structure), Aldrich said it isn't cheap to create parking spaces.

"Since we don't charge for parking, there is no revenue source to pay for the more expensive structural parking," she said.

Included in the tuition cost is a small fee per student for a parking fund, only enough for basic maintenance, Aldrich said.

Major development of more lots won't become necessary for at least 20 years, she said.

However, in the near future, she admitted considering multi-level parking between Wilson and OC, but not for students.

As conceived, the lot would accommodate staff, administrators, and visitors, who would have to pay for parking, giving OU a revenue source, Aldrich said.

Others suggested a shuttle bus service, but Aldrich quickly dismissed the idea as too expensive and unnecessary for the size of campus.

However, Kampe said, "We've discussed (a shuttle service), and it's a viable option."

Kampe also underscored the need for students to be aware of the high costs involved.

"The dynamics of our campus are changing with the recreation center," he said. "With change, you may see a shuttle bus service. This administration

is very open to student services."

Auto

Continued from page 1

suppliers about retrofitting some of the demonstrated technology to U.S. Army vehicles," Cheok said.

"We have to get projects from the outside," Cheok said. "I got several projects in the same field."

Cheok had become interested in the field of autonomous

robotics about 12 years ago.

He has since worked on Fuzzy Logic (a means for computers to interpret linguistic instructions) and on Neural Networks (a computer model of a brain).

"These are tools I apply to control engineering," Cheok said.

"Another research (project at OU) is application of virtual reality and parallel computing in engineering," he said.

Diversity

Continued from page 1

input from everyone to benefit the university."

Congress is currently trying to plan activities for various stu-

dent beliefs, Barnett said.

For example, students can participate in the Martin Luther King Jr. march on campus.

Other possibilities include participating in the Campus Wide Diversity week and Religious week, events that are yet to be scheduled, Barnett said.

Trial

Continued from page 1

Auburn Hills Police Lt. David Chase said, "(The breath test) goes off air. Anything else may hinder results."

By observing the individual for 15 minutes prior to the breath test, the officer is assured the "person did not put any object in their mouth, belch or regurgi-

tate, (all) of which would effect the accuracy of the breath test," Chase said.

Valerie Schultz, OU student and driver of the vehicle in which Thomas was travelling, was charged with a misdemeanor of unlawful blood alcohol level.

Jury selection for her trial at the District Court level begins Feb. 6 before Judge Ralph Nelson at the 52nd District Court in Rochester Hills.



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Howard Hughes Medical Institute Summer Undergraduate Research Program Oakland University

Up to eight Research Fellowships of \$3,000 each will be awarded for the period June 1 - August 21, 1998. Oakland University sophomores or juniors who are contemplating careers in biological or biomedical research or science teaching are eligible to apply. This is a two-year program including summer support designed to train students for research in **Biological Communication**. Students will be matched with faculty mentors and will develop skills in problem solving, experimental design, instrumentation, data analysis, written communication, and oral presentation/discussion in small and large group settings.

For information and an application form, contact Dr. J. Haddad, Laboratory Coordinator, 362 Dodge Hall, (248) 370-3566.



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Oakland University has been granted a new AmeriCorps Program. This program will focus on reading literacy as well as enrichment programs for youth in Pontiac.



Applications are now being accepted for the **January** team.

Orientation sessions and interviews will be conducted on January 13 from 12 - 2 in the Oakland Room and from 3:30 - 5:30 in the Heritage Room of the Oakland Center. You must attend one session to be considered for membership.

Earn a Living Wage Stipend! Receive an Educational Award! Gain experience working with youth! Learn valuable future job skills!

If you need additional information call (248) 370-3213.

Make a Difference! Become an AmeriCorps Cadet!

Student Affairs EVENTS

UPDATING OU:

• Would you like to have some input into the new recreation center??? Do you have some questions about the construction project or planned programs??? The Department of Campus Recreation would like to hear from you. Please feel free to call 370-4732 to talk with Greg Jordan, Maura Selahowski or Marcus Jackson. If you would rather e-mail, contact Greg Jordan at jordan@oakland.edu.

• Memberships for the new RECREATION CENTER will be available in the late spring/early summer prior to the GRAND OPENING in September of 1998. The Department of Campus Recreation suggests that faculty and staff who have memberships in the local health club/fitness centers and who will be considering purchasing a membership for the new RECREATION CENTER, may wish to plan for those memberships to expire in a timely manner to coincide with the opening of the OU RECREATION CENTER. Please feel free to call the Department of Campus Recreation, 370-4REC, for further information.

• Campus Recreation would like to remind students that in September of 1998, the fee for the recreation center will begin. If you currently maintain membership in another facility, why duplicate the expense? We'd love to have you utilizing the recreation center, and it is part of your fees. Plan your renewal so you don't pay twice for the same objective.

• Students interested in participating in the Co-op, Career-related or Internship Programs for Winter Semester 1998 should contact Experiential Education, 371 Vandenberg Hall West (370-3213) to become registered. There are jobs available for all majors, and all positions are paid.

• **Cheaper Than A Movie Ticket!** For one of the best entertainment values around, check out the Student Rush Tickets at Meadow Brook Theatre. For only \$5 per ticket, you can see productions at this award-winning professional theatre. Buy one or two tickets per ID for \$5 each at the Box Office in Wilson Hall the day of the performance. Call 370-3300 for a free brochure.

• The Department of Campus Recreation and the Division of Student Affairs would like to congratulate the 1997-98 intramural volleyball champions. The Team Busters won the competitive division, while Dig This ran away with the recreation title. Thank you to all 18 team who participated in the program.

• AmeriCorps Oakland is still recruiting qualified students. If you enjoy working with children, and would like to gain job experience and earn money for college, AmeriCorps may be for you. If you are interested, please contact Experiential Education, 371 Vandenberg Hall West (370-3213), for an application.

THIS WEEK:

• The Department of Campus Recreation open recreation hours in the Bubble are now available outside of 261 SFH. Stop by or call 370-4REC for details.

• The Academic Skills Center is looking for tutors for Winter 1997. The benefits are \$5.75 / hour to start; \$6 after first semester, flexible hours, earn money while you take classes, work on campus (don't lose your parking space!), make new friends, good review for higher level classes, good preparation for graduate exams and looks good on your resume. Choose from these hours to work: 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday - Wednesday, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, and 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Sunday. Visit 103 NFH or call Helen Woodman at 370-4215. E-mail address is asc@oakland.edu. Visit our website at <http://mirage.otus.oakland.edu/stuff/asc/index.html>.

• Are you ready for some rim rattlin', rebound battlin', fast breaking, head faking, straight jammin', ball slamming fun??? Intramural Basketball entries are now available in the Department of Campus Recreation at 261 SFH. Preseason games on Jan. 12 at 8 p.m. in the Bubble. The season, which will have competitive and recreational divisions, starts Jan. 13. Call 370-4REC for more details.

• Student Organization Leader training workshops for new officers starts Monday, Jan. 12. For more information, contact the Center for Student Activities and Leadership Development, 49 Oakland Center, 370-2020.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

• Winter Semester PREP Week, sponsored by Placement and Career Services, will be held on campus the week of Jan. 19, 1998 with specific events and activities to be held on Tuesday, Jan. 20 through Friday, Jan. 23. Featured event of the week will be the "Spirit of Diversity" Career Fair from noon to 3 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 21 (co-sponsored with the African-American Celebration Month Committee and the Office of Disability Support Services). Also featured will be a Dress for Success Fashion Show from noon to 1 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 22. Both events will be held in the Oakland Center. Watch for more details about PREP Week in this column next week (along with general campus-wide publicity)!

• The Center for Leadership and Student Development offers a series of programs for experienced student leaders. The **Leadership @ 3** series will be from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. as follows:
Thursday, Jan. 14 in 125 OC: Your role as an officer/member in your student organization.
Wednesday, Feb. 18 in 128 OC: Understanding your student organization account.
Wednesday, March 18 in 126 OC: How to motivate your members with Effective Delegation.
Wednesday, April 15 in 126 OC: Make the transition as a new officer/member.

• Student Organization Day is coming -- Wednesday, Jan. 28, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the OC Heritage Room and Fireside Lounge.

• DSC Communications Corporation has invited Oakland University students to participate in a private job fair (a VIEWnet virtual job fair) on Feb. 17 through Feb. 19, 1998. Students interested in working with computers may apply online at www.viewnetinc.com for interview opportunities on those dates. Visit the Placement & Career Services website at phoenix.placement.oakland.edu, or call (248) 370-3250, for additional information. (Must be registered with Placement & Career Services to be eligible to participate.)

CLASSIFIED ADS

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for Tumblebus program (mobile gymnasium). Energetic, caring adult to do entry level fitness program with pre-school age children. We will train. Full or Part time day jobs available. Rate of pay is \$5.15 an hour for a 30 day training period and \$6.00 an hour to start. For more information, please call Vicki or Terri at 810-293-6684.

Orientation Group Leader- (OGL)

Motivated, energetic, enthusiastic, Hardworking, creative, congenial, tenacious, preserving and responsible students needed to welcome and facilitate groups of new students in orientation. Apps available in 134 NFH. Due January 23

Seamstress

Looking for part time assistant. Call Rita for details. 656-5094

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Call 248-652-1132.

AA on Campus

Confidential meetings of Alcoholics Anonymous are held Tuesday at noon in Room 5 in Graham Health Center, through door at right of Counseling Desk.

SPRING BREAK

SPRING BREAK

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It's great to work with students who make fundraising friendraising!!

If you are interested in joining our team,
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What's happening at Oakland University during the Winter Semester?

Well. The Center for Student Activities and Leadership Development is planning the following:

Officer Training Workshops:

Monday, January 12th from 10-11:30 am in 128-130 Oakland Center and 3-4:30 PM in the Oakland Room
Tuesday, January 13th from 3-4:30 pm in 128-130 Oakland Center
Wednesday, January 14th from 3 -4:30 pm in 128-130 Oakland Center
Tuesday, January 20th from 10-11:30 am in 128-130 Oakland Center

Leadership @ 3 - Leadership Series

Thursday, January 15 th	3-4:30 pm	125 OC	"Your Role as an Officer/Member in your Student Organization"
Wednesday, February 18 th		128 OC	"Understanding your Student Organization Account"
Wednesday, March 18 th		126 OC	"How to Motivate your members with Effective Delegation"
Wednesday, April 15 th		126 OC	"Making the Transition as a new Officer/Member"

Student Organization Day 10- 3:00 pm Heritage Room
Fireside Lounge

Pledge Training for Greek Organizations

Sunday, February 8th 3-5:00 p.m. Oakland Room
This workshop is for new and potential members of a Greek Organization

Officer Transition Workshop

Saturday, April 11th 9:00 am - 4:00 p.m. Oakland Room
Breakfast & Lunch provided

To sign up to participate in any of these programs or training sessions, please stop by the Center for Student Activities and Leadership Development, 49 OC.

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Aaron Rodriguez
Ballplayer freshman year.
Little League Coach sophomore year.
Killed junior year
December 28, 1993
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from driving drunk, who will?
Do whatever it takes.

FRIENDS DON'T LET FRIENDS DRIVE DRUNK.

SPORTS

Women's hoops on winter roll

Despite a recent loss, their future looks bright

By JOE GRAY
Assistant Sports Editor

OU Women's Basketball team lost a 73-71 heartbreaker at Lipscomb University last Monday.

The Pioneers had possession of the ball with 10 seconds remaining. But sophomore guard Jamie Ahlgren was unable to sink a shot to tie the game and send it to overtime.

Despite this, Ahlgren still led all scorers with 31 points.

This loss is only the second for the Pioneers in 13 games.

The team followed up a 5-0 start with a 6-1 record in the month of December.

The Pioneers began December with a three-game road trip where they suffered the first loss of the season at Florida Southern.

They rebounded with three home victories, including a 20-point win against Lake Superior State, an above-.500 team.

The team finished the month with convincing road victories against Indiana-Purdue and Northern Kentucky.

The team's great start can be traced to its defensive play and intensity.

It has not allowed any opponent to shoot above 50 percent from the floor and held Indiana-Purdue to a 29.4 shooting percentage.

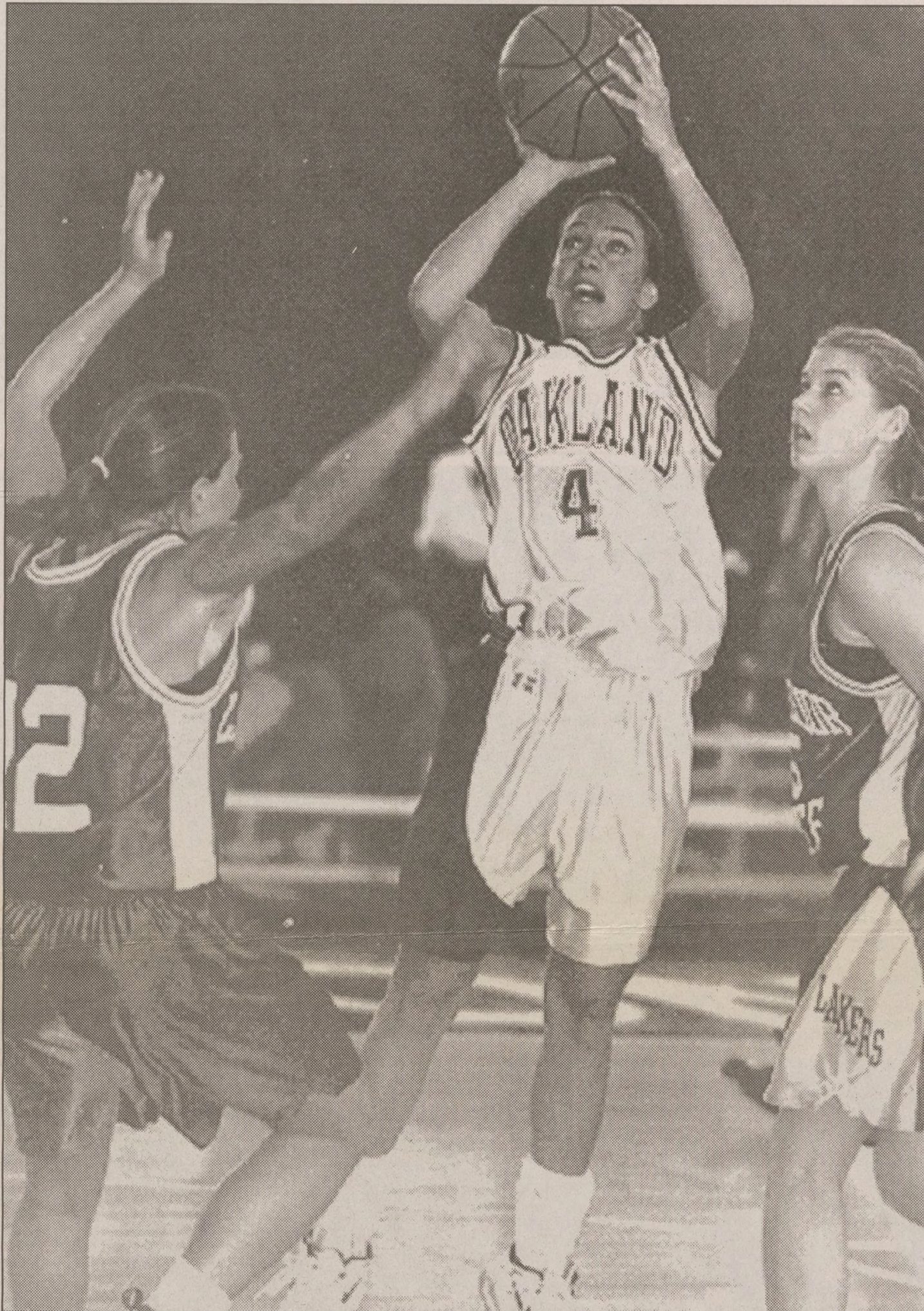
"We focus on defense," said sophomore guard Sara Skutt. "We work hard in practice and we don't like to lose."

Looking toward the near future, the Pioneers are set to face a tough run in their schedule. They will travel to four different schools to play four straight road games.

After the road stint, they will return home for a two-game stand.

According to Skutt, the team will remain focused for the rest of the season because of intense practices held by Coach Becky Francis.

The women Pioneers will close out their season with their only Division I opponents. OU is scheduled to play Detroit Mercy on March 2.



UP AND AWAY: OU senior guard Ulrika Nilsson reaches high for the hoop, while Lake Superior State defenders look on during the game last month. Lake Superior beat OU 80-60 on Dec. 9.



Andrea Nobile

Discipline drills should be saved for practice, not play

OU finally got the publicity its been longing for-but our 15 minutes of fame were laced with negativity.

On Dec. 10, the buzz traveling through the local radio airwaves all day concerned an incident occurring at OU's Men's Basketball confrontation against UM-Dearborn the night before.

Coach Greg Kampe, reportedly frustrated with his team's lack of enthusiasm, determination, and heart, while in the heat of the game, called a time-out.

He then made the players do a drill of pushups on the sidelines while everyone in the Bubble waited and gawked.

Although Kampe's tactics proved successful from a competitive standpoint (they won the game 67-59), they may have lacked in the human compassion department. The players were possibly humiliated into winning.

Pushup drills and verbal disciplines should be reserved for team practices.

This is a time when coaches and players should work one-on-one to enhance and improve overall team enthusiasm and skill.

Players can be "whipped into shape" within the comfort zone of practice. This is a place free of unfamiliar faces staring out of curiosity when team members are reprimanded.

Players feel safe in this familiar territory that allows and accepts mistakes and weaknesses, which eventually produce a positive product. They are polished come crunch time.

However, when that discipline is taken outside of the comfort area, human emotions tend to heighten. Faces turn red and hearts speed up. It's human nature.

How many of us didn't get that queasy knotted-up feeling when disciplined in front of classmates in elementary school?

Didn't we all want to melt into the floor while our mother reamed us out in front of friends?

We don't want our inadequacies announced publicly.

Several callers into Detroit's WDFN 1130 AM said that Kampe's decision to discipline the players also humiliates the school as a whole. Opposing teams may look at OU as a team with poorly dedicated players who need to be bullied into motivation.

Next fall, OU athletics will officially be Division I-AAA. Because of this, several players on the team are saving their eligibility by choosing to be red-shirted.

At the Dec. 9 game, the team had only eight players available to play.

These chosen players, who put their knuckles to the hardwood in front of more than 200 attendees, are mostly team members who don't play on a regular basis. However, they should have worked the inexperience kinks out at practice time.

This negative publicity ironically coincided with OU administrators' decision to spend more than \$83,000 to increase OU's athletic image through a new mascot. But some may ask "Why bother with the new mascot if the team looks bad already?"

College basketball shouldn't be a garden for humiliation. Even if the attitude is "it's not whether you win or lose, it's how you play the game," college athletics should be a place for positive reinforcement and uplifting spirit for players, fans, and entire institutions and not a place for public embarrassment.

Putting the past behind

Swimming and diving teams look to put program back in full swing

When the men and women of OU's Swimming and Diving Teams step up to the podium, they will be putting their marked past in a sealed box.

This Saturday the team will be hosting Denison in the Lepley Swimming Pool.

It's the first home meet since their suspension repeal at the end of last year.

"Our goals are still the same as the beginning of the season," said senior co-captain Laura Juncker.

The swimmers and divers are caught on the universal athletic cusp of transitional change to achieve status in Division I-AAA, but due to regulations, the Pioneers cannot compete for a national championship.

However, the athletes are eligible to win the NIC Championship meet, which covers three days of swimming and diving in Cincinnati, Ohio, on Feb. 26 through Feb. 28.

The team consensus is that they are looking forward to getting back in the water.

Juncker said they are ready to move on, and put the past behind them.

This Saturday will be one step toward a season back in full swing.



Post Photo / Bob Knoska

TREADING WATER: Sophomore Jennifer Redumski, backstroke and freestyle, slides through the water to make her way down the lane.

PIONEER INSTANT REPLAY

Men's Basketball

- Lost to Ferris State 80-66 on Dec. 6.
- Lost at Bradley 76-35 on Dec. 6.
- Defeated U-M Dearborn 67-59 on Dec. 9.
- Defeated Lake Superior State 67-61 on Dec. 14.
- Lost at Kentucky Wesleyan 90-58 on Dec. 20.
- Lost to Siena Heights College 90-67 on Dec. 23 in the Blimpie Classic.
- Lost at Saginaw Valley State 84-69 on Jan. 3.

Women's Basketball

- Lost at Florida Southern 86-72 on Dec. 5.
- Defeated Lake Superior State 80-60 on Dec. 9.
- Defeated Kentucky Wesleyan 80-76 on Dec. 11.
- Defeated Indianapolis 78-66 on Dec. 21.
- Defeated Indiana-Purdue at Fort Wayne 72-49 on Dec. 28.
- Defeated Northern Kentucky 74-66 on Dec. 30.

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Basketball:

- Jan. 10 -- The men at Lake Superior State at 1 p.m.
- Jan. 10 -- The women at Lake Superior State at 3 p.m.
- Jan. 14 -- The men host Grand Valley State at 7:30 p.m.

Swimming and Diving:

- Jan. 10 -- The men host Denison at 3 p.m.
- Jan. 10 -- The women host Denison at 3 p.m.

Unseasoned youth contribute to loss

By ANDREA NOBILE
Sports Editor

While most people were suffering from after-New Year celebration fatigue this Saturday, Men's Basketball was suffering a 84-69 loss against Saginaw Valley State University.

The Pioneers were led by freshman forward Dan Champagne and junior guard Jeff Kennedy, with 15 points each.

Their efforts were upstaged by the opposing forces. Four Saginaw Valley team members shot into the double digits. Saginaw Valley guard Julian Taylor led all scorers with 18 points. He also dished seven assists.

The Pioneer men have marked the new year by adding another loss to their record for, putting them at 7-9 for the season.

"We're a young team that has never played together, and we lack experience," said freshman forward Pete Maienknecht, who scored eight points off the bench.

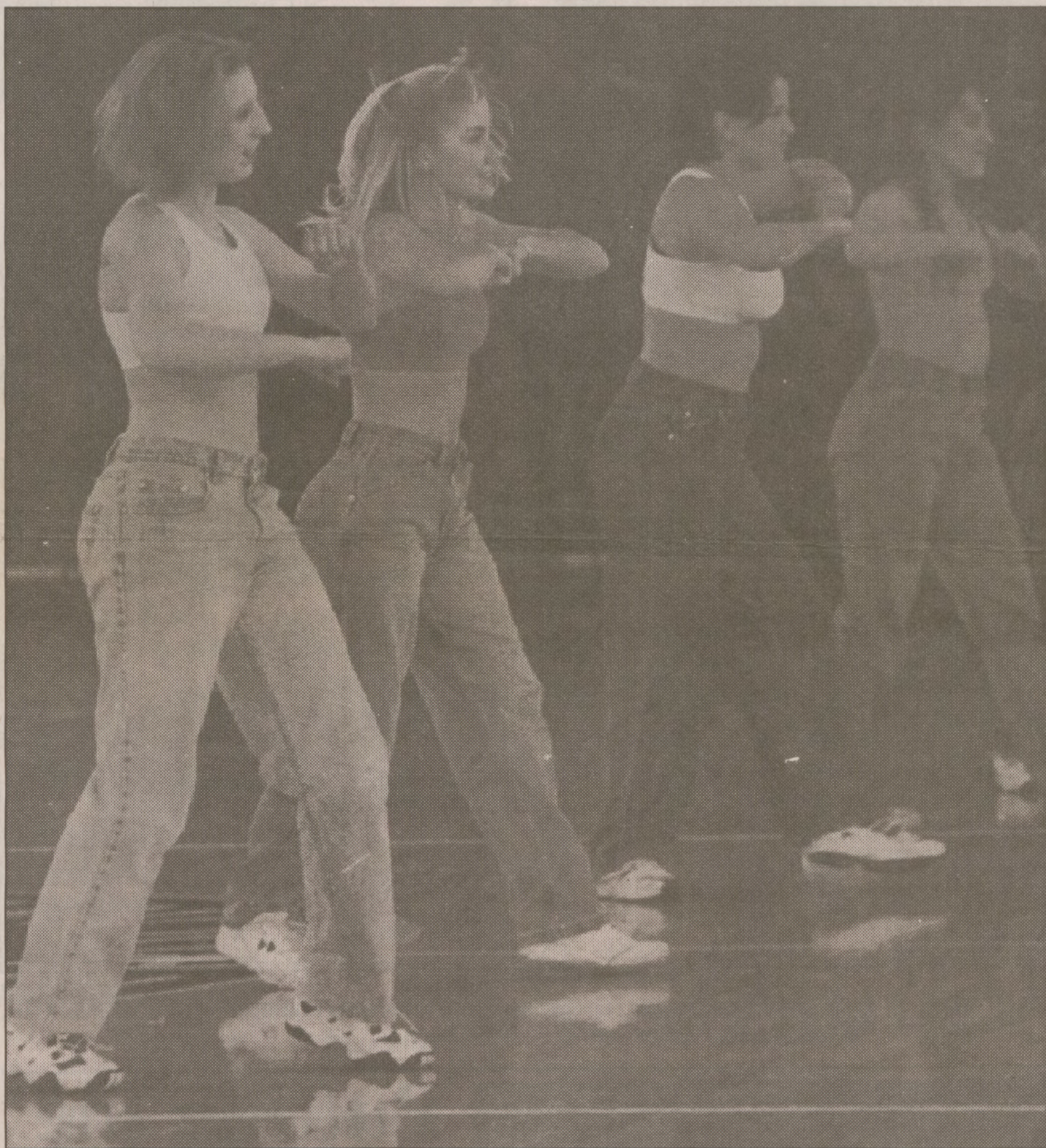
Coach Greg Kampe agreed with Maienknecht. "We're 0-7 on the road. That's a sign of a youthful, and inexperienced team," he said.

Kampe agreed the season so far has been slow. "This year and next year are transition years."



Post Photo / Bob Knoska

QUICK CHAT: Mike Riley, sophomore Men's Basketball guard, heads to the sidelines for a talk with Men's Basketball Coach Greg Kampe. Riley resigned from the team earlier this season.



Halftime rhythm stirs up the Bubble

FUNK IT UP: OU's "Images" Dance Team twists, jumps and turns for spectators in the Bubble. The team performs hip-hop, funk, and pom routines at all home games to entertain the crowd at halftime.

Pioneers gearing up for MSU, rec opener

By ANDREA NOBILE and JOE GRAY
Sports Editor and Assistant Sports Editor

OU Men's Basketball will mark this fall's Inaugural Game at 7:30 p.m. on Nov. 18 in the new Student Recreation and Athletic Center by hosting the Michigan State University Spartans.

"I'm excited to open our new Student Recreation and Athletic Center and our new era in athletics (Division I) by playing MSU, which has historic ties to OU," said President Gary Russi in a press release.

Big Ten school MSU will provide OU with a challenge in its first Division I-AAA season.

"This is the most significant thing that has ever happened to basketball at Oakland University," said Men's Basketball Head Coach Greg Kampe.

The positive buzz on the opener is bleeding into student opinions, as well.

"It makes it legitimate Division I-AAA. Hopefully, we'll be seeing some bigger crowds," said sophomore Ron Sliwinski, secondary education and history.

The rec center sports arena holds approximately 3,000 spectators. This is 2,500 seats more than what the current Bubble holds.

According to students, there should be no trouble filling the extra seats.

"Michigan State is just so well known, crowds will come," said sophomore Mike Ryan, communications.

"I hope the Pioneers are ready for State. They need a lot of work," said marketing sophomore Taharqa Blue.

Wrestling deaths raise concern about weight reduction

College Press Service
By MIKE SPENCE
Knight-Ridder/Tribune News Services

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. — Cutting weight has been as much a part of wrestling as the single-leg takedown.

It's also been one of the sport's most hotly debated topics. The heat was turned up recently when three wrestlers died during workouts within the last two months:

- University of Michigan's Jeff Reese, 21, a junior from Wellsburg, N.Y., collapsed during a workout on the eve of his first match of the season. Authorities ruled Reese died from excessive training while trying to lose too much weight too fast.

- University of Wisconsin-La Crosse's Joseph LaRosa, 22, collapsed and died last month while wearing a rubber suit to help lose weight.

Authorities ruled he died of heat stroke.

- Campbell University's Billy Jack Saylor, 19, died of a heart attack last month while trying to shed 6 pounds to qualify in the 190-pound class for his first meet.

Deaths in wrestling have been rare.

Now, there have been three deaths within two months. This prompted the NCAA to take a closer look at the sport. USA Wrestling, planned a conference call on the topic for January, but moved the call up to Tuesday.

"Education and information are certainly something we can help to disseminate," USA Wrestling spokesman Gary Abbot said.

USA Wrestling officials were hesitant to comment on the three deaths until more was known about them.

"Were they using some type of supplement that we don't know about? Did they have physical problems?" Strobel

said. "You really can't make a judgment until you know all the facts."

Yet, Strobel said that based on the circumstances he's read, the wrestlers died of heat stroke, which makes their deaths that much more unfortunate.

"Our trainer here at Lehigh, Jack Foley, said heat stroke is the most preventable problem there is," Strobel said. "It just underscores the need for more education of athletes and coaches."

When it comes to cutting weight, Strobel said common sense prevails.

The key is to establish each wrestler's lean body mass. That will determine how much weight a wrestler can safely lose and what kind of daily caloric intake the athlete will need to maintain proper weight.

Strobel said a wrestler's proper weight is lean body mass plus 5 to 7 percent body fat.

The Lehigh coach said cutting

weight properly takes planning and patience.

"I never let my wrestlers lose more than one to two pounds of body fat per week," Strobel said. "If you lose more than that, you're losing other tissue."

When it comes to weigh-in day cut-downs, Strobel said he monitors his wrestlers during the week to make sure they don't stray too far about their required weights.

"I like them to stay between three to seven percent of their lean body weight," Strobel said. "You can lose three percent in fluids with an easy workout. You can lose five percent in fluids with a hard workout."

Strobel recommends high school wrestlers should not attempt to lose more than three percent of their weight in fluids to make weight requirements.

Sure Things

OU EVENTS

GOSPEL EXPLOSION '98, 6 p.m. Friday, Varner Recital Hall. Call (248) 370-3013.

BOOK SWAP, 9:30 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. today, Thursday & Friday, Fireside Lounge.

FORMULA SAE OPEN HOUSE, 5:30 p.m. & 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, outside 201 Dodge Hall. Call (248) 370-4229.

MUSIC

DETROIT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, featuring pianist Terrence Wilson, 8 p.m. Thursday & Friday; 8:30 p.m. Saturday, Orchestra Hall. Call (313) 833-3700.

THE VOLCANOS, wsg The Dirtbombs, 9 p.m. Friday, Magic Bag. Call (248) 544-3030.

SCOTT FAB CD RELEASE PARTY wsg Chris Moore, 8 p.m. Saturday, Magic Bag. Call (248) 544-3030.

PROFIT, 8 p.m. Saturday, St. Andrew's Hall. Call (313) 961-6358.

THEATRE

"THUNDER KNOCKING AT THE DOOR," preview 8 p.m. today, Thursday & Friday; Opening 6 p.m. Saturday; 2 p.m. & 6:30 p.m. Sunday; 8 p.m. Tuesday, Meadow Brook Theatre. Call (248) 251-5835.

"ESCANABA IN DA MOONLIGHT," 7 p.m. Thursday; 8 p.m. Friday; 3 p.m. & 8 p.m. Saturday; 2 p.m. & 7 p.m. Sunday, The Purple Rose Theatre Company. Call (313) 475-7902.

"CAROUSEL," 7:30 p.m. Thursday; 8 p.m. Friday; 2:30 & 8 p.m. Saturday, Macomb Center. Call (810) 286-2222.

"SATURDAY, SUNDAY, MONDAY," 8 p.m. Thursday, Friday & Saturday, Hilberry Theatre. Call (313) 577-2972.

"A CLOSER WALK WITH PATSY CLINE," 7:30 Thursday - Saturday, 7th House. Call (248) 335-8100.

RAISE THE ROOF, benefit for Performance Network, 6:30 p.m. reception and 8 p.m. show Friday & Saturday. Call (313) 663-0681.

FILM

"THE MANY FACES OF FONTAINEBLEAU," 2 p.m. Saturday, The Detroit Institute of Arts. Call (313) 833-7900.

OTHER

HISTORY OF THE BLUES LECTURE BY E. HOWARD NELSON, 7 p.m. today, Rochester Hills Public Library. Call (248) 370-3102.

U.S. HOT ROD MONSTER JAM, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Pontiac Silverdome. Call (248) 456-1600.

GALLERY TOUR: ITALIAN GOTHIC PAINTINGS, 2 p.m. Sunday, The Detroit Institute of Arts. Call (313) 833-7900.

Radio change shows classical on decline

By ERIKA MILLER
Staff Writer

To classical music lovers, the recent switch to modern rock by WQRS (105.1 FM), the region's only full-time classical music radio station, is a shock.

For some, the new sound is the equivalent to fingernails scraped across a blackboard.

"They started playing an operatic duet, then phased in the other music," said senior Kathy Jowers, history.

"The way they did it was to kill classical music off — to really offend anyone who loved that station. It was calculated to have the maximum offense."

The new rock format, called The Edge, introduced itself at 5 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 21, with a song by the group called Nine Inch Nails.

But the station owner, Greater Media, which also owns two other local rock stations, WRIF FM 101.1 and WCSX FM 94.7, vastly improved its position in the highly competitive Detroit radio market as a result of the switch.

According to reports by area advertising agents in a "Detroit Free Press" report on Nov. 25: "... It (Greater Media) should be able to offer better deals on commercials than its competitors."

Tom Discenna, WXOU 88.3 FM program director, confirmed this.

"The classical music format is a dying format. Stations are falling all over themselves to get rid of it," he said.

The student music director for non-commercial WXOU, junior Chris McCullen, communications, views music in all genres as art, not just as a commercial product. Because most

music today is generated by advertising, he claims there's a loss of diversity.

"I would rather have WQRS on than another rock station," he said.

"Part of the irony is that they all purport to be on the cutting edge, but they're not. They're all playing the Top 40. WQRS would present itself as the real alternative, rather than the glut of modern rock stations," he said.

Associate Professor of Music Lettie Alston expressed sadness at the death of classical music stations.

But she admits that the university music program has been adjusted to appeal to today's students, who have increasingly less of a background in classical music when they enter OU. Flexibility does allow diversity for faculty musicians, however, who have to keep up with new electronic instruments, she said.

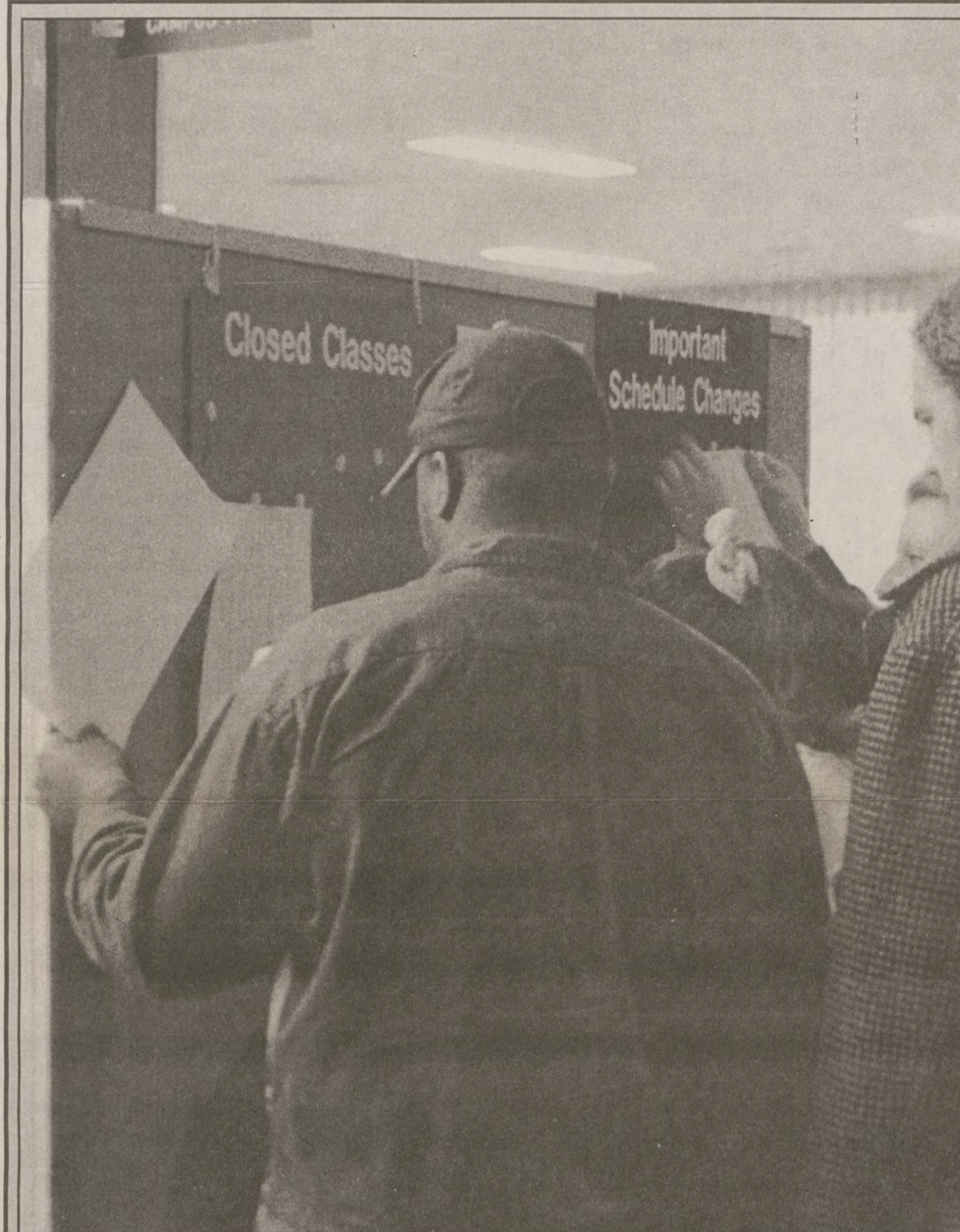
"This is creating a very controversial issue in the concert arts," Alston said. "It has to do with the social climate. If we're not promoting classical music, we lose that level of sophistication in society. That's why we tend to go from the sublime to the ridiculous," she said.

Alston notes three primary factors in this decline: parents who don't expose their children to it at an early age; secondary schools, both public and private that exclude classical music; and the newer background music now employed in most television and film.

"Everyone's selling out to reach the audience," Alston said.

"We're becoming Americanized," she said, "and the public loves it."

Fortunately WXOU is starting a two-hour classical program from 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. Thurs.



Post Photo/Lisa Belanger

Registration frustration

CLOSED CLASSES: Students read the list of closed classes so that they can plan their schedules. Regular registration ended Monday and late registration begins today in 100 O'Dowd Hall.

Plan spring break to save headache

By ERIN HAUGHEY
Special Writer

Some travel agents feel that starting early and researching your trip, as well as your travel agent, is the key to a stress-free vacation.

"Just because it sounds good, doesn't mean it is!" warns Bill Winch, a student travel specialist for James Travel Points International in Boulder, Colo. He's urging students to research travel companies' reputations for standing behind their travel arrangements.

Many students, looking at the low price, do not take the time to research the company. Sometimes these companies confirm travel arrangements before they have actually booked seating on planes.

Some tour operators buy bulk seats on planes to get special rates but scramble at the last minute to accommodate overbooked flights. Experts advise students to watch for trick advertising used to camouflage cost "add ons," fees hidden between the lines.

Beware of higher prices due to peak travel times, departure tax, and processing fees. Many flights, for example, are priced for East Coast departure, charging extra for travelers to leave from local airports.

When problems do arise, these companies are nowhere to be found.

"They claim to have an office on location, but they never say where," said Winch, who has been in the business of student travel for more than 15 years. He said he has heard hundreds of horror stories about students who didn't research their trip.

Some of these unfortunate travelers spent more time moving in and out of hotels (as many as three in the course of a week) than they did on the beach. Others found that "breakfast included" meant a free coupon for a biscuit at a fast food restaurant.

Watch for tricky wording, Winch said. "They claim to have air fare but never promise secured seating."

Not all of these companies are sketchy, but do your homework to have a worry-free vacation.

No matter what, the earlier you book, the better off you are. You'll have your choice of destinations, the best bargains, and perhaps a bill installment plan.

Erin Haughey is a writer for The Colorado Daily at the University of Colorado-Boulder

MUSIC TO YOUR EARS

Double CD shows best, worst of Rakim

By DAMON BROWN
Features Editor

Rapper Rakim made the mid-'80s an awesome time to be a rap fan, and he's back to give it another shot in the '90s.

This effort is solo, since he and his DJ Eric B. broke up because of creative differences.

Now, more than a decade after his first record, he is back with a double album for the price of one. The first album is new, "The 18th Letter," and the second is Eric B. and Rakim's greatest hits.

The second album alone is worth the price of the CD. It has every classic that made Eric B. and Rakim legends.

It includes "I Ain't No Joke," "My Melody," "Move The Crowd" and "Paid in Full."

It also includes classics such as "Microphone Fiend," "Mahogany" and "Let The Rhythm Hit 'Em."

However, his new material, with the exception of a few good cuts, leaves a lot to be desired.

Notable songs include the first single, "Guess Who's Back," the city

"The 18th Letter"

Bittersweet

● ● ●
out of 4 points

anthem "New York" and the jazzy "It's Been A Long Time."

Other tracks on the album are boring and repetitive.

The songs "Stay A While" and "Show Me Love" are Rakim's attempts to tell a love story, but the boring beats and stale raps are a far cry from his older and better love song "Mahogany."

"Remember That," in which Rakim reflects on the '80s, and "The Mystery," in which he talks about his Muslim faith, both fail as their honest, smooth lyrics are flooded by bad, intrusive beats.

On the other cuts, such as "When I'm Flowin'" and "The Saga Begins," Rakim himself is weak, with simple, corny and dull lyrics.

The highpoints of "The 18th Letter" and the phenomenal collection on the

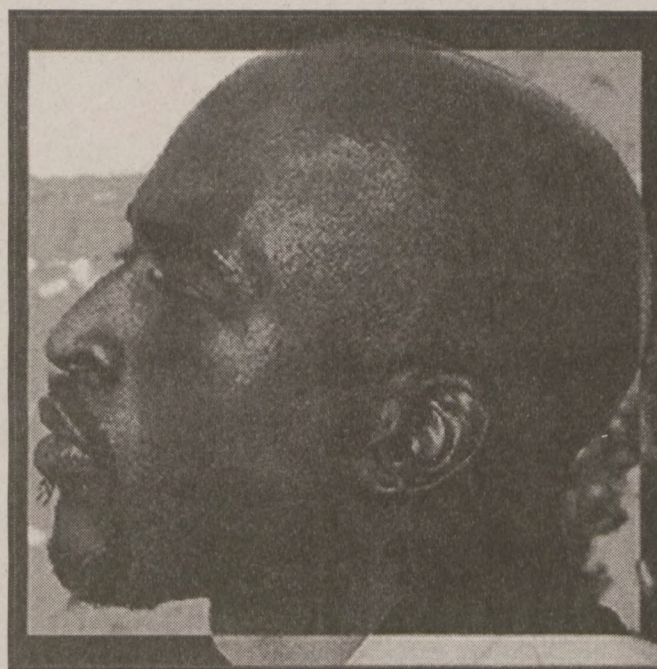


Photo Courtesy/Universal Records

HE'S BACK: The rapper Rakim returns after a hiatus.

second album prove that Rakim can do better than what he delivered.

Hopefully, Rakim is just adjusting to being back in the spotlight and will rediscover his skills so that he can once again "Move The Crowd."

Recommended classic rappers

- Sugar Hill Gang
- EPMD
- Doug E. Fresh
- Big Daddy Kane
- MC Lyte
- Rob Base
- Biz Markie
- Boogie Down Productions

Eric B. & Rakim's Albums

Paid In Full
Follow The Leader
Let The Rhythm Hit 'Em
Don't Sweat The Technique

FEATURES

Attack of the MOVIES

THE REEL DEAL SPECIAL EDITION

The flood could cause many to sink

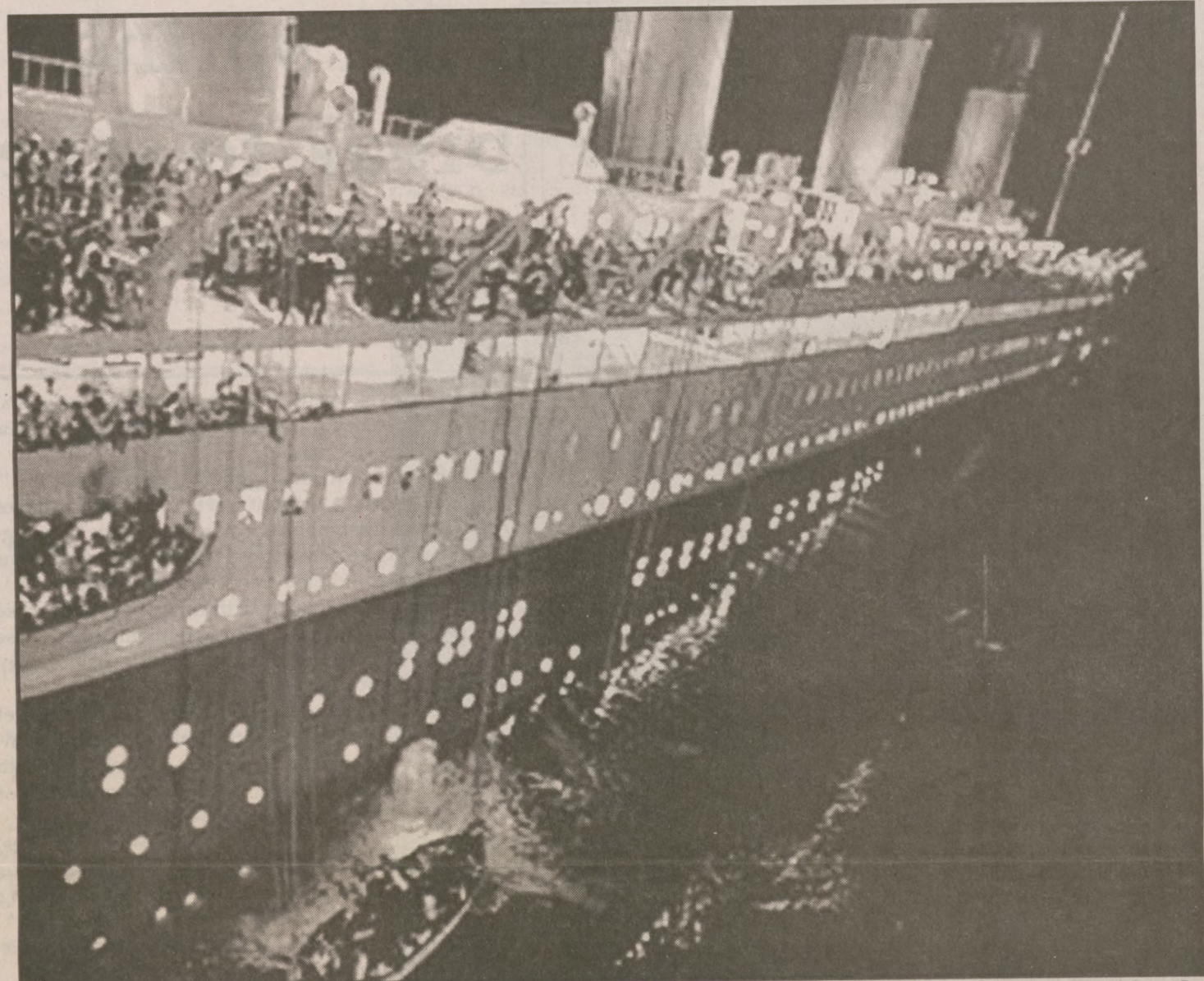


Photo Courtesy/Twentieth Century Fox

STILL AFLOAT: "Titanic," James Cameron's \$200 million movie about the doomed ship, has almost made its production costs back in ticket sales. During Christmas week alone (its first week), it raked in \$88 million. It has beaten the previous title-holder, "Independence Day," in first week ticket sales.

'Tomorrow Never Dies'

Mission Failed



out of 4 points

"Tomorrow Never Dies" attempts to change the 007 traditional format with more style and less substance, but this could leave the James Bond fan unsatisfied.

The main bad guy — a Ted Turner wannabe played by Jonathan Pryce — led the weakest set of villains in the 007 gallery.

The movie did have exciting action scenes, but the plot development was terrible.

"Tomorrow Never Dies" veers away from the interesting spy plots that have made the famous spy series interesting, and plunges James Bond into the mediocrity of the standard

action hero. Instead of a secret agent, Brosnan's character is more reminiscent of Jean-Claude Van Damme in "Time Cop."

On a good note, the lead actress Michelle Yeoh has the screen presence and gymnastic ability to be a future action heroine.

Yeoh nicely combines a sharp wit with smooth, natural charisma and charm.

Overall, the movie was a thrill ride of action scenes, but it lacked character development and a good plot.

-JOE GRAY Assistant Sports Editor

'Amistad'

Excellent



out of 4 points

Beautifully photographed, intelligently written, realistically portrayed, and wonderfully acted, "Amistad" is in all aspects the best film of the 1997 holiday season.

Steven Spielberg proves once and for all that he is one of the most powerful directors in the industry as he commands the astonishing cast.

Anthony Hopkins, Morgan Freeman, Matthew McConaughey, Pete Postlethwaite, and new-comer Djimon Hounsou round out the strong cast. Though they do not get all of the credit. All are well supported by the mature script by David Franzoni.

Spielberg won't win any Oscars for his tremendous work (since he already swept everything with 1993's "Schindler's List"), but that doesn't deny the strength of the film.

A perfect example is the twenty minute segment in the middle of the film detailing the slaves journey from Africa to Cuba. The scene pulls a literal gasp from the audience.

Though it has not gained much popularity because of its subject matter, this story of the 1839 slave ship revolt is powerful, moving, and deserves a wide audience.

-GABE GAZOUL Staff Writer

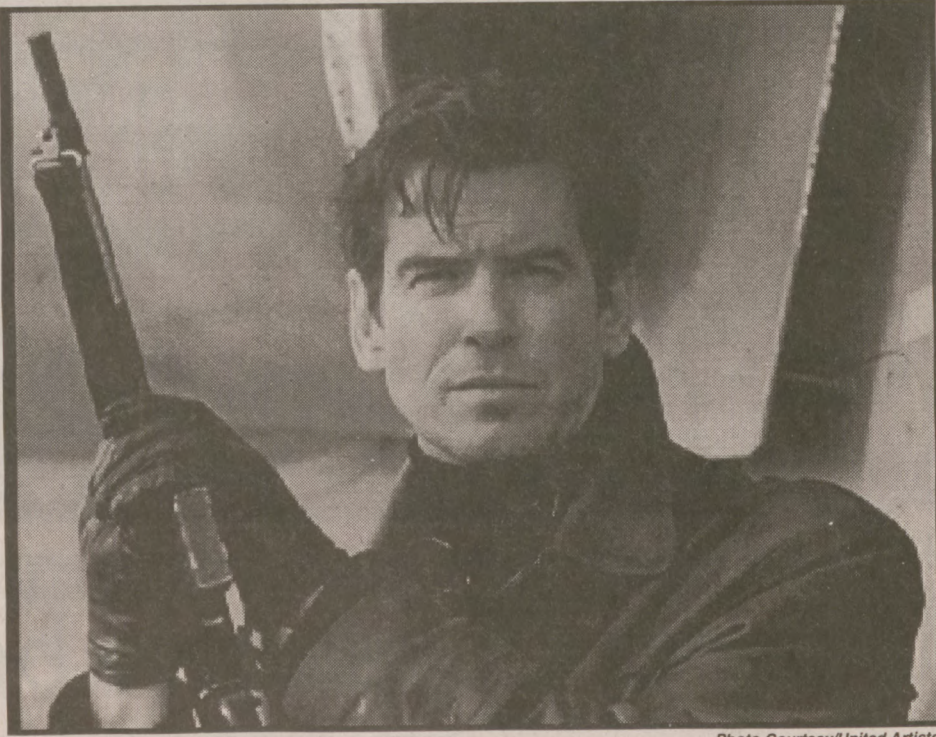


Photo Courtesy/United Artists

SHOOTING BLANKS: Pierce Brosnan stars as James Bond in "Tomorrow Never Dies." It is his second Bond film, the first being "GoldenEye."

'As Good As It Gets'

Not as good as it gets



out of 4 points

"As Good As It Gets" suffers from the same disease that most comedies suffer: all the funny stuff was in the previews.

This is not to say that Jack Nicholson is not hysterical as the crass, obsessive-compulsive.

Nor is this to say that the film is not every bit heartwarming as it is hilarious.

"As Good As It Gets" is one of the few films to touch its audience with more than just a romantic love relationship but rather on several levels.

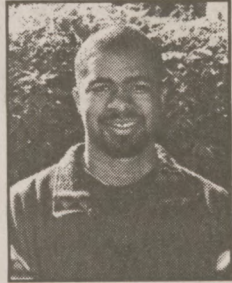
Helen Hunt and Greg Kinnear are both delights as well as Cuba Gooding

Jr. who makes a brief appearance. I even liked the overly cute dog (and that's saying a lot for those who know me).

The film, though, lasts too long. Romantic/comedies are normally less than two hours whereas this one is more. But it would have been fine if the ending didn't feel dragged out and tacked on.

Nevertheless, director James L. Brooks (who uses a bit to many close-ups) can be forgiven since he never allows the film to take itself too seriously or be too dramatic.

-GABE GAZOUL Staff Writer



Damon Brown

Remember the simple pleasures in life

When I went home after my finals, I became sad and defensive.

I wondered why I felt the way I did. During the semester I was happy despite the hectic schedules and deadlines.

And there I was, at home with my loving family, unhappy.

I could take a well deserved rest. I could catch up on my reading and writing. There were no deadlines.

And yet, I was still mopping around.

On one particular day, I thought long and hard as to why I was so sad.

I went to get my haircut, and afterwards, I went to wait at the bus stop. The bus seemed to take forever.

As I waited, three boys — brothers, I figured out later — walked across the street, towards me. The one in the middle was about ten. He was obviously the oldest brother.

Two other kids, considerably shorter than he, waddled alongside him. They were about four or five.

As soon as they crossed the street, they ran as fast as they could behind me. I turned to see where they were running.

All I saw was a dreary shopping center and a gray, pale sky. What were they so excited to see, I thought.

On this warmer than usual day, about 45 degrees, all the snow had melted. Almost all the snow, at least.

I then realized the kids were running to their holy grail — a mound of snow two feet high, and about ten feet wide — that lay behind me on the shopping center parking lot.

Instantly the kids were in motion: throwing snowballs, setting up forts in holes, making surprise attacks. I didn't pay them much mind, though. I just turned back around and waited for my bus.

A few minutes later, for no particular reason, I turned around again.

One of the younger boys, in his pure innocence, took a snowball he had formed and began eating it like an apple.

I almost yelled "Hey kid! Don't eat that dirty snow!"

But, as my mouth began to open, I hesitated. I realized I didn't have anything to teach him, but rather I had something to learn.

He was experiencing pure life. He was living life. He was just being.

I realized in my rush to become an adult, I had forgotten about the simple pleasures.

I needed to meet a deadline or win in a competition or cram for an exam to feel like I was living a worthy life.

I had forgotten how great it was to sleep in. How fulfilling it was to have a good conversation with my parents. How important it was to have a good laugh.

I didn't say anything to the boy, but I just smiled. From then on, I just watched them play, and I smiled and smirked at their antics.

Suddenly, out of the blue, I chuckled aloud. I didn't mean to, but I did.

Literally two seconds later, my bus came.

I guess I learned the lesson I was suppose to learn here, I thought to myself, and smiled as I entered the bus.

Damon Brown is the Features Editor of THE OAKLAND POST.